Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9995

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

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EXDIS

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, UNSC, RH

SUBJECT: RHODESIA: NKOMO'S PRELIMINARY REACTION TO

CONFERENCE PROPOSAL

1. COOKS SPOKE WITH MEMBERS OF NKOMO'S STAFF MARCH 10 (YOUNG UNABLE REACH NKOMO) TO EXPLAIN THAT SECRETARY HAD EXPECTED TO DISCUSS CONFERENCE PROPOSAL WITH NKOMO AND MUGABE BEFORE IT BECAME PUBLIC, DURING APPOINTMENT ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 9. SECRETARY WOULD DO SO SATURDAY. THEIR REACTION TO PROPOSAL WAS NONCOMMITTAL. THEY SAID THEY WOULD WISH TO CONSIDER IT CAREFULLY AND DISCUSS WITH THEIR PEOPLE (IN AFRICA).

2. RICHARD (UK) HAD BRIEF CONVERSATION WITH NKOMO IN SC CONFIDENTIAL

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CHAMBER. NKOMO'S REACTION TO CONFERENCE WAS NEGATIVE. HE SAID PF WAS NOT INTERESTED IN NEW CONFERENCE; THERE WAS ALREADY PERFECTLY GOOD CONFERENCE IN BEING, STARTED AT MALTA, AND PF WAS PREPARED TO CONTINUE WITH IT. YOUNG

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